

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 H-02 /029 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1163

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, SO

SUBJECT: SIAD LETTER TO PRESIDENT FORD

1. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED FBIS EXCERPTS FROM SIAD'S INTERVIEW WITH PIETRO PETRUCCI, ITALIAN JOURNALIST AND CP MEMBER WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN AFRIQUE-ASIE IN JULY. EXCERPTS CONTAINED IN FBIS ISSUE OF JULY 24.

2. INTERVIEW WITH PETRUCCI TOOK PLACE PRIOR TO CONGRESSIONAL VISITS TO BERBERA JULY 4 AND JULY 6. DESPITE SOME CRITICISM, IT CONTAINS SOME POSITIVE STATEMENTS ABOUT US (I.E., QTE WHATEVER ONE MAY SAY OR THINK ABOUT PHENOMENON OF US, ITS SYSTEM AND ITS IDEOLOGY, I REMAIN CONVINCED THAT THIS GREAT COUNTRY COULD PLAY A POSITIVE ROLE WITH RESPECT TO THE MOST UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES UNQTE) AND SHOWS SIAD'S DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN DIALOGUE WITH US AND WITH PRESIDENT FORD DESPITE US CHARGES ABOUT SOVIET BASE AT BERBERA:

QTE I HAVE WRITTEN A LONG LETTER TO GERALD FORD TO REMIND HIM OF WHAT I TOLD HIM AT OUR TALKS IN WASHINGTON LAST YEAR. I HAVE ALSO INVITED US SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN TO COME AND SEE WHAT THE REALITY IS ON THE SPOT UNQTE.

3. WHILE US CONGRESSMEN HAVE COME AND GONE, WE HAVE NO INDICATION YET THAT SIAD'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT FORD HAS BEEN DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR ADDOU. WE HAVE HEARD AND READ OF CONGRESSMEN'S CONCLUSIONS BUT SO FAR AS I AM AWARE SIAD'S PERSONAL MESSAGE HAS

NOT RPT NOT GOTTEN THROUGH. SO LONG AS IT REMAINS UNDELIVERED, THEN IT SEEMS TO ME PRESIDENT SIAD MUST HAVE GENUINE DOUBTS AS
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TO WHETHER US IS WILLING TO HEAR WHAT HE PERSONALLY HAS TO SAY TO

PRESIDENT FORD OR WHETHER US REALLY DESIRES RENEW DIALOGUE WITH HIM DESPITE EVENTS OF PAST SEVERAL MONTHS.

4. I HAVE NOW BEEN GIVEN DATE OF AUGUST 9 FOR MEETING WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY ARTEH FOR PRESENTATION OF COPIES OF MY CREDENTIALS PRELIMINARY TO FORMAL PRESENTATION TO PRESIDENT SIAD. MY MEETING WITH SIAD SHOULD TAKE PLACE ON AUGUST 10 AT EARLIEST.

5. I BELIEVE THAT IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT SIAD'S LETTER BE DELIVERED PRIOR TO MY FORMAL PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS AND MY FIRST TALK WITH SIAD. WE WOULD IN THAT WAY SHOW SIAD THAT WE DO DESIRE RENEW DIALOGUE AS MUCH AS HE, THAT TIME AND ATTENTION HE GAVE SENATOR BARTLETT AND OTHERS HAS BEEN RECIPROCATED AND THAT RELATIONSHIP HE ESTABLISHED WITH PRESIDENT AS RESULT OF THEIR OCTOBER 1974 TALKS HAS NOT RPT NOT BEEN BROKEN. WITH BERBERA PRESUMABLY BEHIND US NOW, THESE ARE IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS FOR US IN MOGADISCIO.
LOUGHRAN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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